COPY

IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in this application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-52 (Previously Cancelled).

53. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide from *Corynebacterium* which encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2~~, wherein the protein has the activity of SEQ ID NO: 2~~.

C1

54. (Previously Added) The polynucleotide of Claim 53, which comprises nucleotides 201 to 1109 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

55. (Previously Added) The polynucleotide of Claim 53, which is SEQ ID NO: 1.

56. (Previously Added) A vector comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 53.

57. (Previously Added) A microorganism transformed with the vector of Claim 56.

58. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a protein which has the ~~activity~~ amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, comprising culturing the transformed microorganism of Claim 57 under conditions suitable to produce the protein and isolating the produced protein.

A

59. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide from *Corynebacterium glutamicum* which hybridizes under stringent conditions to SEQ ID NO: 1 or the full complement of SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the stringent conditions comprise washing in [0.5X 5X] SSC at a temperature [of from] 50 to 68°C, and wherein the polynucleotide encodes a protein that inhibits lysine production in a bacterial cell ~~having the activity of SEQ ID NO: 2~~.

C2

60. (Currently Amended) A vector comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 59 ~~53~~.

61. (Previously Added) A microorganism transformed with the vector of Claim 60.

62. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a protein which has the activity of ~~SEQ ID NO: 2~~inhibiting lysine production in a bacterial cell, comprising culturing the transformed microorganism of Claim 61 under conditions suitable to produce the protein and purifying the produced protein.

63. (Previously Added) An isolated polynucleotide consisting of 30 to 383 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 1.

64. (Previously Added) An isolated polynucleotide consisting of at least 30 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 1.

65. (Previously Added) The polynucleotide of Claim 64, which is SEQ ID NO: 3.

66. (Previously Added) A vector comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 64.

67. (Previously Added) The vector of Claim 66, wherein the polynucleotide is SEQ ID NO: 3.

68. (Previously Added)The vector of Claim 66, which is pCR2.1lysR1int shown in Figure 1 and deposited as DSM 13616 at the German Collection for Microorganisms and Cell Cultures (DSMZ, Brunswick, Germany).

Claims 69-71 (Cancelled)

72. (Previously Added) *Escherichia coli* DSM 13616.

73. A process for producing L-amino acids, comprising culturing ~~a bacterial cell~~ the *Escherichia coli* of Claim 72 in a medium suitable for producing L-amino acids and collecting the L-amino acids produced, ~~wherein the bacterial cell comprises an attenuated lysR1 gene~~.

Claims 74-76 (Cancelled)

77. (Previously Added) The process of Claim 73, wherein said L-amino acid is L-lysine.

78. (Previously Added) The process of Claim 73, wherein said L-amino acid is L-valine.

Claims 79-80 (Cancelled).

81. (Previously Added) An isolated polynucleotide which comprises the full complement of nucleotides 201-1109 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

82. (Currently Amended) ~~The polynucleotide of Claim 81~~An isolated polynucleotide, which ~~is~~ comprises the full complement of SEQ ID NO:1.